

Message Text

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45

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-09 H-02

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15

USIA-12 ACDA-19 NIC-01 MBFR-03 GAC-01 SAL-01 OMB-01

TRSE-00 RSR-01 /129 W

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R 061513 Z APR 73

FM AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6780

SECDEF WASHDC

INFO AMEMBASSY HELSINKI

AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

USMISSION NATO

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

AMEMBASSY VIENNA

C O N F I D E N T I A L COPENHAGEN 0703

E. O. 11652 GDS

TAGS: MCAP, NATO, DA

SUBJ: DANISH PARLIAMENT PASSES DEFENSE BILL

REF: USNATO 1682, COPENHAGEN 547

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1. DEFENSE REFORM BILL PASSED ITS THIRD AND FINAL READING APRIL 5 BY VOTE OF 120 TO 16. ONLY MARXIST PEOPLES SOCIALIST PARTY VOTED AGAINST, BUT HANDFUL OF OTHER DEPUTIES ABSTAINED. ALTHOUGH SOME ASPECTS OF BILL LEAVE MUCH TO BE DESIRED, ITS PASSAGE BY SUCH LARGE MAJORITY, IN FACE OF CURRENT AGITATION FOR CUTS IN ALL GOVT DEPTS, IS SIGNIFICANT ACHIEVEMENT FOR PRO- NATO ELEMENTS.

2. IN CONVERSATION WITH EMBOFF, MFA CHIEF OF NATO AFFAIRS, VILLADSEN, EXPRESSED RELIEF THAT LEGISLATION HAS FINALLY PASSED ITS LAST ROADBLOCK. ROYAL ASSENT IS STILL REQUIRED BUT THIS IS ONLY FORMALITY. VILLADSEN INDICATED AWARENESS OF SUGGESTION REPORTED IN USNATO 1682 THAT DEFENSE MINISTER OLESEN GIVE ASSURANCES ABOUT IMPLEMENTATION OF RESTRUCTURING BUT SAID HE PERSONALLY BELIEVED THAT IT WOULD BE PREFERABLE FOR PERM REP HJORTH- NIELSEN TO MAKE WHATEVER REPRESENTATIONS ARE REQUIRED TO DPC. VILLADSEN TELEPHONED LATER, HOWEVER, TO SAY THAT OLESEN HAS SENT TELEX TO LUNS INFORMING HIM OF PARLIAMENT' S ACTION AND ASSURING HIM OF DANISH GOOD INTENTIONS RE NATO' S WISH FOR COMPENSATORY MEASURES.

3. VILLADSEN, INCIDENTALLY, IS EXPECTING TO ASSUME DCM POSITION IN DANISH NATO DELEGATION AFTER JUNE MINISTERIAL. WHEN HJORTH- NIELSEN DEPARTS FOR HIS NEW POST AS AMBASSADOR TO CANADA , HIS POSITION IS TO BE TAKEN BY PRESENT DANISH AMBASSADOR IN MOSCOW, ANKER SVART, WHO WAS PREVIOUSLY AMBASSADOR IN PEKING DUNNIGAN

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*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

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